

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 22, 2013

The Honorable Jack Kingston
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and
Human Services and Education
2358 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and
Human Services and Education
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Kingston and Ranking Member DeLauro:

We are writing to respectfully request that you level fund the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act (Perkins) in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill. While we understand that the committee is faced with difficult choices to ensure fiscal responsibility, we ask you avoid further reductions to Perkins, which would have adverse affects on millions of career and technical education students across the United States and the business community tthat relies on these programs for a skilled workforce.

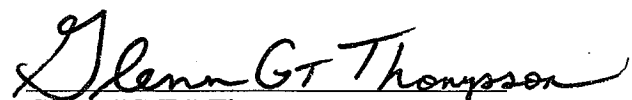
As CTE programs continue to evolve in order to ensure that workers are well prepared to hold jobs in high-wage, high-skill, and high-demand career fields like engineering, information technology and healthcare, it is now more important than ever to ensure there are not further reductions. Funding for Perkins provides high school students transferable skills that allow them to be "college- and career-ready," and addresses the skills gap by providing the retraining adults need to access the jobs that are available in today's market. CTE also strives to engage students to help them better understand and apply academics, and keeps the United States economically competitive.

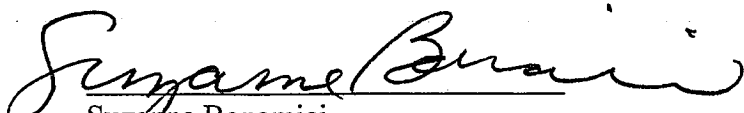
Funding for the Perkins Act had remained stagnant for nearly a decade and most recently suffered from reductions in the past two fiscal years, despite the demand for CTE increasing. Reducing funding will limit job opportunities for young workers and adults who are trying to reenter the workforce, during this time of economic recovery. Perkins' significance has been recognized by the authorizing Committee on Education & Workforce by expressly prohibiting states from consolidating Perkins funding through the House-passed SKILLS Act, H.R 803, Section 140 (4)(A).

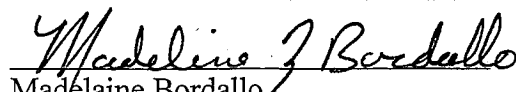
This recognition sends a clear message of the need for further emphasis on Perkins related activities. CTE works to ensure that students have the academic, technical and employability skills necessary for true career readiness—and Perkins funding is key to their continued success. Therefore, we urge you to maintain funding for the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act in FY2014.


Sincerely,


Jim Langevin

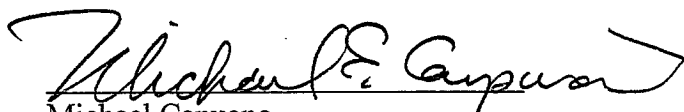

Glenn "G.T." Thompson



Suzanne Bonamici

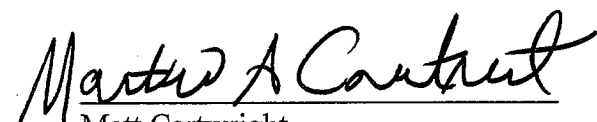

Madelaine Bordallo



Larry Buschon



Lois Capps



Michael Capuano



Tony Cardenas


Matt Cartwright

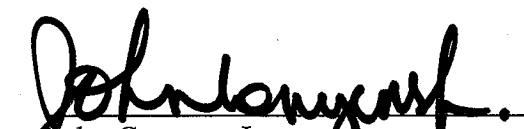

Andre Carson


Joaquin Castro



David Cicilline



Emanuel Cleaver

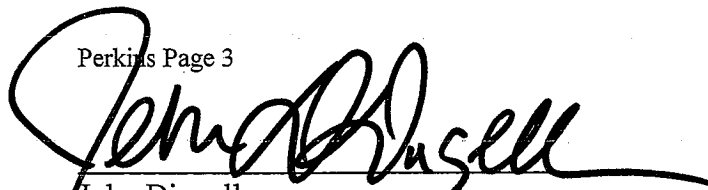

Gerald Connolly


John Conyers, Jr.

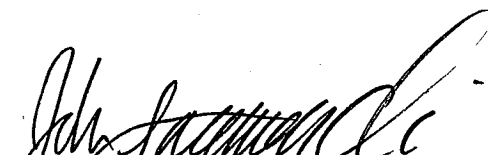

Joe Courtney

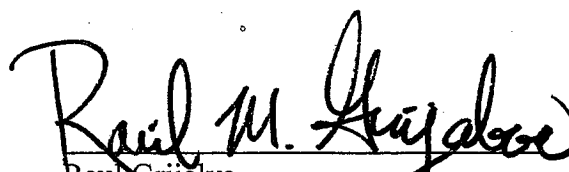

Peter DeFazio



Suzan DelBene



John Dingell

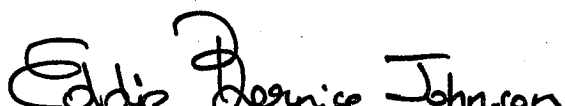

Bill Foster


John Garamendi



Raul Grijalva

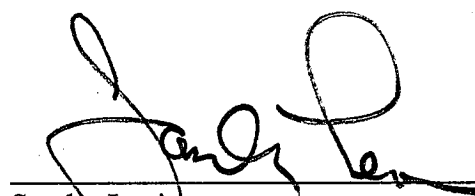

Colleen Hanabusa

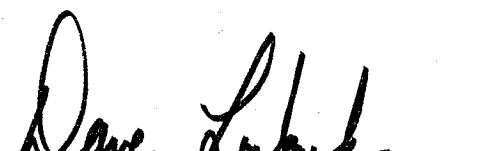

Rush Holt

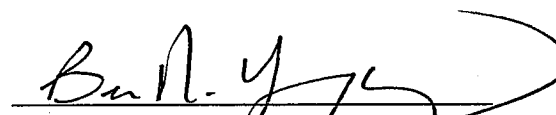

Eddie Bernice Johnson



William Keating

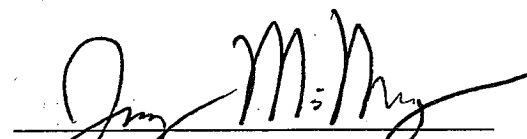

Rick Larsen



Sander Levin



David Loebsack


Ben Ray Lujan


Mike McIntyre


Jerry McNerney


Michael Michaud


Eleanor Holmes Norton



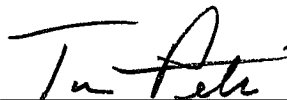
William Owens



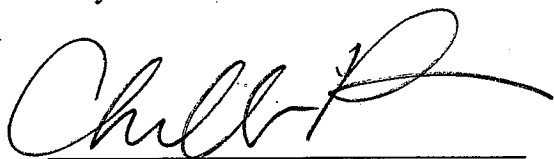
Bill Pascrell



Gary Peters



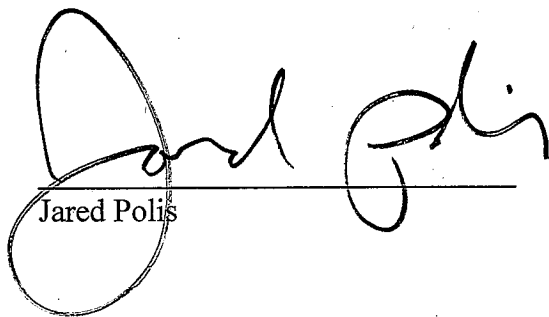
Thomas Petri



Chellie Pingree



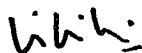
Mark Pocan



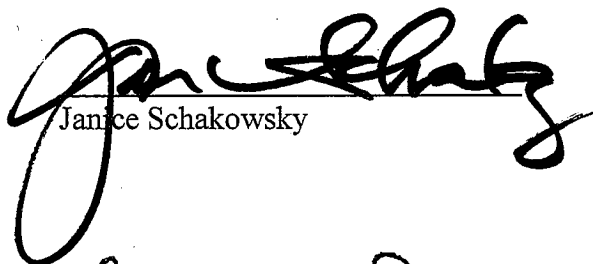
Jared Polis



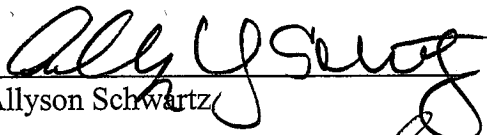
Nick Rahall



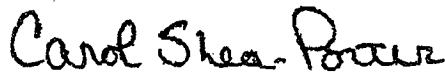
Gregorio Kilili Camacho



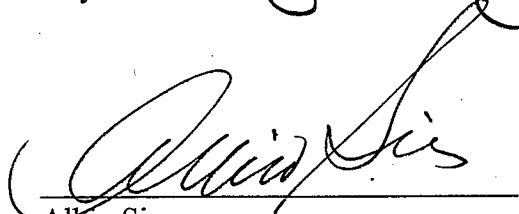
Janice Schakowsky



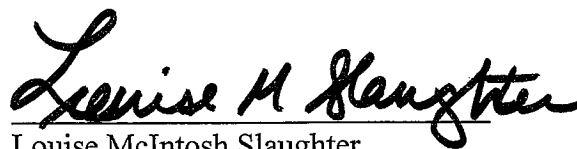
Allyson Schwartz



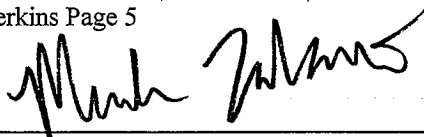
Carol Shea-Porter

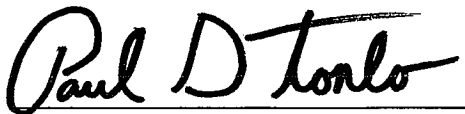


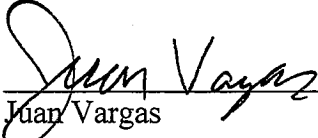
Albio Sires




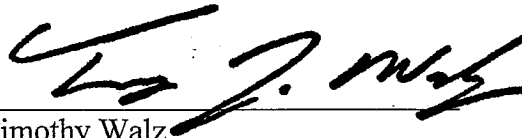
Louise McIntosh Slaughter

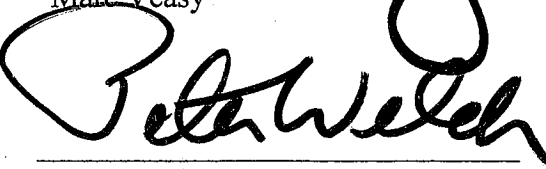

Mark Takano

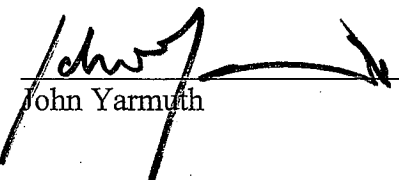

Paul Tonko


Juan Vargas



Marc Veasy

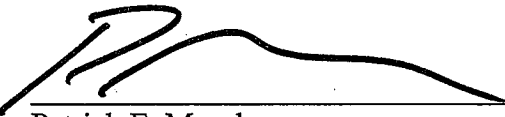

Timothy Walz

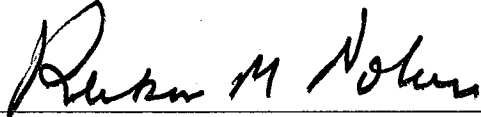

Peter Welch


John Yarmuth

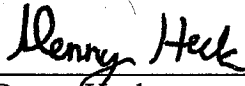

Chris Van Hollen



Linda Sanchez

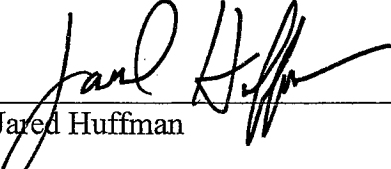

Patrick E. Murphy


Rick Nolan


Charles B. Rangel


Denny Heck


Ami Bera


Jared Huffman